

THE
THEATRICAL VOLUNTEER;
O R,
IMPARTIAL BARD.

A
POETICAL ESSAY,

Occasioned by PART of the
LAUREAT'S APOLOGY.

In which are
Introduc'd, certain well intended Observations on the
late memorable S-----TORIAL MOTION.

PART the FIRST.

Humbly Inscrib'd to
The Honourable JOHN SPENCER, Esq;

By J. ALTIOR, Esq;
Some Time GOVERNOR of the Province of HISTRIONESIA.

—tentanda via est, quâ me quoque possim
Tollere humo, victorque virum volitare per ora.

VIRG.

While all the BRAVE, 'twixt Pole and Pole, admire
Great VERNON, whose EXPLOITS each MUSE inspire;
By me, AMBITIOUS grown, must, now, be found
Some Means, how I too, may become renown'd;
But Oh! what Means? Since born and bred on SHORE,
We Land-men dread the naval Cannon's Roar.
What if, again, with warm and eager Aim,
In the theatrick Way, I follow FAME?
While thus I court her, tho' she prove unkind,
I should not fruitless, my Addresses find;
For, as thou DRAMA, art my favourite BLISS,
Delight I'm sure of, tho' Renown I miss.

L O N D O N :

Printed for T. TAYLOR, in Exeter-Exchange; and Sold by the
Booksellers of London and Westminster. 1741. (Price 1s.)

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OR,
IMPARTIAL BARD.
A
POETICAL ESSAY,
Occasioned by Part of the
LAUREATE APOLOGY.

In a Series of
Interlineal, certain well-attended Observations on the
History of the Theatre, from its Origin to the Present
Time.

PART THE FIRST.
By J. ALSTON, Esq.
The Hon. the Lord Mayor, &c.

By J. ALSTON, Esq.
Some of the Governors of the Theatre of the City of London.

Printed by J. Alston, at the Theatre, in the Strand, near the Theatre-Royal, in the City of London.
1751.

LONDON:
Printed for T. Farrow, in Fleet-Street, and sold by the
Booksellers of London and Westminster.



To the HONOURABLE

JOHN SPENCER, Esq;

S I R,



It is not uncommon to see an enterprizing, but *injurious* Author, dedicating his Production to a Person of the *first* Rank, to whose Temper he is an utter Stranger, merely for the Honour of an *illustrious* Patronage; and afterwards to behold him *inconsolably* mortified, at having found in his GRACE, no other Mark of *Birth* and *Quality*, than an imperious *shocking* Contempt for all *beneath* him.

While I am compassionating the Case of such a Man, I cannot but reflect, with inexpressible Satisfaction, on my own Conduct in the *Choice* of a Patron; it being of a Person, who, tho' in EXTRACTION *eminently* noble, proves himself, by the most engaging Affability and Condescension, the very *Contrast* of *Patrician* Haughtiness and Ostentation. But I forget that Men of your *exemplary* Worth, are, from a certain *Delicacy* of *Spirit*, usually offended at the *Encomiums* it excites; let me therefore change the Subject.

Of the many Tokens I have had of your valuable Esteem, the *lawrell'd* Dignity lately confer'd upon me, is, I own, what gives me the highest Joy; and, as the only Mark of Gratitude, within my Power to give, I take the Freedom to offer you

DEDICATION.

a Present, agreeable to the *Nature* of the Boon receiv'd, tho', in Point of *Value*, I must confess, *infinitely* inferior to it.

To be brief, my trifling Muse (like many other *prolifick* Females, whose *Fruitfulness* is all their Merit) being frequently pregnant, has lately been brought to bed of more than a single Birth; that Part, therefore, of the *copious* Offspring, of which she happen'd first to be deliver'd, I entreat you will honour with your Acceptance. Should the Brat prove unworthy your Regard, I cannot expect but you will return it, with *Disgrace*, to the unhappy Donor; but should it, on the contrary, (as Children of *worthless* Parents, sometimes appear *deserving*) be look'd upon entitled to your Favour; this Infant, it is probable, after such Encouragement, will not be the only one, for which your desirable Adoption will be requested by,

Most Amiable Patron,

Your Oblidg'd,

Grateful,

And Obedient

LAUREAT.





P R E F A C E.



O furious *Party-Bigotry*, no Friend,
I truly with all *PARTY*, at an End;
Of *COURT* and *COUNTRY-INTEREST*, that the
Would like the *Noise* of *WHIG* and *TORY*, die.

But as there always have been, are, and will
Contentious Parties be subsisting still;
I chuse t'applaud the *WORTHY* of each Side,
Rather than the *UNWORTHY* to deride;
At Praise myself, by praising others aim,
Nor snarlingly pursue *SATIRICK* Fame,
Fame, which itself, can never well support,
Without offending one, or t'other C--rt.
And, as in Praise of *WORTH*, alone to sing,
No C--rt can blame, as an *obnoxious* Thing,
Uncheck'd, I'll levy both the * *Pr--ce* and *K--g*;
Detach'd from all, who make a *PARTY* pother,
Revering one, and loyal to the other.

[B]

Should

• When the Author was struggling to extricate himself from the various tormenting Perplexities, he once underwent, occasion'd by his being unfortunately engaged in the Management of a certain Theatre, His R-y-l H-gh-ess, with his usual Benevolence, was pleas'd, by publick Marks of Favour, to shew himself, his strenuous Advocate and Well-wisher. Which generous Act of Condescension and Humanity, could nor, but indelibly imprint itself on the grateful Mind of him, who was so highly oblig'd and honour'd, by that R-y-l and adorable PERSONAGE.

P R E F A C E

Should PARTY-ROARERS, then, who *luke-warm* deem
All, for their PARTY, who, less *noisy*, seem ;
Ridiculously claiming high Applause,
For being *loudly* STEADY to their Cause,
While, *all* the *boasted* Steadiness they show,
They, to *blind* Credit in their LEADERS, owe ;
Should such, I say, who PARTY-ZEAL affect,
On me, as wavering 'twixt both Sides, reflect ;
Of their *own* PARTY, all who're *truly* wise,
The POET will *approve*, the F--LS *despise*.

If, to conclude, in HISTORY Truth is found,
Nations, for *martial Gallantry*, renown'd,
By *Jars intestine*, oft have been the Prey
Of Foes, whose *chiefest Strength*, in CONCORD, lay.
Shou'd you, then find, that in *some* Lines I aim
Our JARS to *soften*, rather than *enflame* ;
Be you, to C--rt, an ENEMY or FRIEND,
If you're a PATRIOT you'll those Lines commend:

Of farther Preface there's, I think, no need ;
Then, without farther, the *Production* read.

THE



T H F.

THEATRICAL VOLUNTEER;

O R,

IMPARTIAL BARD.



THY Volume, *Cibber*, I've perus'd with Care;

To what Effect, the following Lines declare :

When seiz'd, for *acting*, with *unruly* Rage,
I once essay'd, with *some* Applause, the STAGE;
Sneers from my Foes, and Friend's *incessant* Blame,
Damp'd all my Pleasure in *theatrick* Fame.
Thus us'd, my Joy *predominant* I check'd,
The Stage avoided, and retriev'd Respect.

But, self-denying Penance, which I've bore,
Now, twice Six Years, I can endure no more.

If,

If, *acting*, then, I Friends, again, disgust,
 On thee I charge it, and the Charge is just ;
 Since, howe'er Criticks may *explode* thy MUSE,
 Part of these PROSE, with *Rapture* I peruse.

Transported with thy Notions, just and clear,
 How, as an Actor, graceful to appear,
 Intent on the *enchanting* Page I dwell,
 And feel *Dramatick* Lust, again, rebel.

For Art *theatrick*, *Betterton* renown'd,
 In his *own* Time, who *Equal* never found ;
 Whose Speech *emphatical*, *majestick* Mien,
 And Action *just*, so *dignify'd* the Scene !
 To match whose *Merit*, and reach whose *Fame*,
 Succeeding Players, still *successless* aim,
 With all his Charms, I, in *Idea*, see,
 And for the *Transport* am oblig'd to Thee.

Mountfort, whose *boundless* Genius could expre^s
 Affliction, Joy, or Virtue in Excess ;
 Who topp'd, *alike*, with his *amazing* Art,
 The Rake's, the Lover's, and the Hero's Part,
 Painted so well I *enviously* admire,
 And long the same Perfections to acquire.

Say

Say, Muse, with Freedom, and with Honesty,
 If the Ass---n, had been judg'd by me,
 To whose fell Blade, he render'd up his Breath,
 What had his Sentence been? A just one---Death;
 The Blood of *such* a Play'r, *unfairly* spilt,
 Than of Ten *murdering* P--rs, less shocking Guilt.

Th' Account thy Sheets as pleasingly impart
 Of *Hart's*, *Mohun's* and *Kynaston's* Desert;
 Of *Smith* and *Sandford*, thy *judicious* Praise,
 No less combining my Delight to raise;
 Yet still, with added Joy, I'm more elate,
 When *Booth's* and *Wilks's* Merit you relate,
 Renown'd Performers of a later Date.

While these, in BUSKINS, prove *superior* Skill,
 The SOCK'D *Triumvirate*, *Lee*, *Underhill*,
 And matchless *Nokes*; I, in my *Fancy*, view,
 And thank Thee, LAUREAT, who their Portraits drew.

Of *fair* Performers, each excelling Grace,
 By you recounted in their proper Place,
 To my *Imagination*, with Surprise,
 That's still more *exquisitely* pleasing, rise:

While you, as shining Actresses, set forth
 The *Female Betterton's*, and *Mountfort's* Worth;

Their different *histrional* Charms, I find
Rival in each other, in my *raptur'd* Mind.

Of graceful *Barry*, *Bracegirdle* genteel,
The Joy, in *writing*, which you seem to feel,
I, in *perusing*, catch ; but lose again,
In Grief, I've never their Performance seen.
And yet, again, let me forbear to moan,
That I *their* Excellence have never known ;
Let me be thankful, * *Oldfield* I've beheld,
An Actress ne'er on *Earth* to be excell'd ;
And sure, if Plays are Part of *Heav'nly* Joys,
*Cæstia*l DRAMA, now, the Fair employs !
Carlos, thrice blest'd wert Thou, when with her Charms,
This bright *theatrick* Angel fill'd thy Arms,
Who quitting her *fictional* *Anthony*,
Flew to her *real* GENERAL----happy Thee !
And while the Charmer's Breast still throbbing glow'd,
Such Blifs as *Cleopatra's* Self bestow'd !
For Blifs inferior, how cou'd *Carlos* find,
When she, from Love *sincere*, to him resign'd ;
Since, when she only *feign'd* *Calista's* Part,
Such amorous Palpitations seiz'd *my* Heart ?

Take, bounteous Stars, still farther Thanks, to you,
For Sight of her contemporary Due,

With

* It was with this celebrated, inimitable Actress, that the Author had the Pleasure of playing the Character of *Lothario*.

With Joy, when acting, who Spectators fill'd,
 But who, with *Extacy*, when dancing, *kill'd*;
 For such were *Saintlow's* Charms, in *Virgin* Youth,
 Such they continu'd, in the *wedded Booth*.

So well recorded, but to read of These,
 I *equal* find with *living* Drama please;
 And my so long absenting from the Stage,
 But *fruitless* proves to cure *Theatrick* Rage.

But mark an Instance of another Kind,
 How strong Description will effect the Mind:

A Nymph, to *wanton* Thoughts, grew, sudden, prone,
 Which being, by *convincing* Tokens, known,
 Her Friends, that *tottering* Fame might be secur'd,
 Poor *Chloe* in a Convent, close immur'd.
 But soon, a Tale *obscene*, the *buxom* Fair,
 Having espy'd, (however it came there)
 By *lively* Hints of each *indecent* Way,
 How Courtezans their Cully's Vigour lay,
 The *lifeless* Book as much inflam'd the Nun,
 As *living* Flesh and Blood, before had done;
 Who, with her Confessor, indulg'd, in fine,
 Her Taste, as with the Stage, I must do mine.
 Thus Taste predominant, whate'er it be,
 And howe'er check'd, will first, or last, be free.

But Parallel so ludicrous, I fear,
 May be offensive to your *laurell'd* Ear ;
 Pardon th' impertinent Digression, then,
 And let us, to the Theatre, again.

While to my Taste, you thus my Mind engage,
 With Observations, on the *quondam* Stage,
 In me, methinks, I feel each Gift unite,
 By which, its fam'd Performers gave Delight ;
 While something whispers me, *yourself* EXERT,
Yourself will **ACTOR** prove no less EXPERT.

For Thanks, then, let not those, hereafter, hope,
 Who cry curb, curb your favourite Passion's Scope ;
 For whensoever the Dreamers so advise,
 The supercilious Dotards I'll despise.

Yet by such Monitors, lest I am thought,
Reason, by *Passion* sway'd, to set at nought ;
 Reason I'll fairly in the Case consult,
 And be determin'd by the *wise* Result.

If what's my *Joy* I am advis'd to *shun*,
 That *profits* many, and can *injure* none ;
 That, tho' it meet, from Fools of Fashion, Scorn,
 Talents requires, with which no *Fools* are born ;

The Counsel following I, *myself* offend,
 Merely to humour a *soft meddling Friend*;
 Hence Reason says in taking *such* Advice,
 I should be *far more complaisant*, than *wise*;
 Then, *finally* assur'd my Taste is *right*,
 I'll act, in *senseless* Admonition's Spight.

But not, alone, with a *voluptuous* View,
 I thus resolve, but with a *virtuous* too;
 Should my Theatrick Attempts succeed,
 Be *theirs* the Profit, who *such* Profit need:
Warmly, for poor *deserted Children's* Sake,
 The *tragick* Scene, again, I'll undertake;
 The Fund augmenting, for their Use, design'd,
 Long to so *true* a Charity inclin'd.
 Illustrious *Russel*, then, and others, chose,
 The Bus'ness of their Charter, to dispose,
 Guard me, *that Night*, from DEGENCY's *dread* Foes,
 Who Actors shock, if well, or ill they play,
 And Audiences disturb, because----they may;
 Who *damn*, with stunning Jargon, *well-writ* Plays,
 And *senseless* ones applaud, with *senseless* Praise;
 Who Hiss, or Clap, *Spleen* shewing, or *Respect*,
 As *ignorant* CAPRICE happens to direct;
 And to their Noise, if MODESTY submit,
Themselves entitle ARBITERS of WIT.

From these, I say, me, Gentlemen, defend,
Who thus would prove *deserted Children's Friend*.

But not for **FOUNDLING's Benefit**, alone,
Shall my *kind* Efforts on the Stage be shown;
They being, with *extensive* View, design'd,
For charitable Use of *various* Kind:
For **AUTHORS** who Encouragement deserve,
Yet *poor* and *modest*, disregarded, *starve*,
While *brazen-fronted* **BLOCKHEADS**, *wealthy* grow,
The *best* of my Theatrick Skill I'll show;
For *helpless* **INDIGENTS**, the Stage ascend,
Whose Preservation must, on *Alms*, depend;
Procure, from *crowded* Audiences, Relief,
For **WIDOWS** sunk in *Poverty*, and *Grief*:
INSOLVENTS, whom *stern* Creditors oppress,
Shall *buskin'd* *Altior*, for *Deliverance*, blest.
But chiefly I'll perform to comfort those,
Who've suffer'd by their Country's *cruel* Foes:

If, for Example, proud *injurious* Spain
Men, dare insult, once, *Masters of the Main*;
If *strong* in Numbers, vile *Iberian* Crews,
To prey on Freight of *weaker* Vessels, cruize;
And when, *such* Prize, the Poltroons chance to meet,
Like *Felons*, the *resisting* Owners treat;

Ears, from their Heads, when they have robb'd 'em, lop, A
 Then *dungeon* the *brave* Men, they *basely* crop, T
 To succour those, who've thus ill treated been, T
 With Joy, I'll *charitably* aid the Scene. In whom, W
 And when I *cheerfully* the Players join, N
 On such a *national, humane* Design, P
 FAME having first, Abroad, proclaim'd my Scheme, H
 The *Theatre* will like a *Senate* seem; Not, with young
 Whose Members, from *discordant* Enmity, Nor
 And Spleen *uncharitable*, wholly free, T
 Unanimously *sanguin* will appear, A
 To serve the *worthy* Cause, that brought 'em there. If
Britain's divided Sons, in short, that Night, Not
 The Theatre to fill, in *FACTION's* Spight, I
 With *amicable* Ardour, will unite. And to him, if I

Marchmont, Stair, Carteret, Chesterfield, Argile, A
 Whom, *FREEDOM's* *VOTARIES*, their *CHAMPIONS*, stile, B
 With *gallant Vernon*, to *Britannia* dear, W
 Will, introduc'd with *joyous* Shouts, appear: His
 Them, *thus* saluted too, will *Poultney*, meet, W
 In *Eloquence*, and *Patriotism*, great: W
 These will, by youthful *Hallifax*, be join'd, T
 Already ripe, in *Probity* of Mind, Not
 Who, with the Force of *ancient* *worthy* Sage, D
 His Peers harangues, *himself* tho' scarce at Age,

A Zeal for Freedom, flowing from his Tongue,
That suits the noble Lineage whence he sprung:
Talbot, advanc'd but little more in Years,
 In whom, *like* Worthiness of Soul appears,
Nobly ambitious of his **Father's Fame**,
 Pursuing it with warm *successful* Aim,
 Has too much in him of the *Briton* true,
 Not, with young *Hallifax*, to join 'em too.
 Nor doubt I *there*, that worthy Peer to find,
Immovably to PUBLICK GOOD inclin'd,
 And no less *steady*, in a *friendly* Mind.
 If any ask who that good Peer may be,
 Not having try'd his Worth, perhaps, like me,
 Let him be told, that *Baltimore* is he.
 And to him, if I e'er ungrateful grow,
 Let me be doom'd to find, he's turn'd my *Foe*,
 A Doom *severe*, I ought to undergo.
Berkley, who, guided by an *honest* Heart,
 With *Honour* acts the *Senatorial* Part,
 His Mind, with *social* Amity, replete,
 With Pleasure, will, his *Fellow-Worthies*, meet.
 Why need I *Bernard* name, or virtuous *Sands*?
 They'll join, of Consequence, the *Patriot-Bands*;
 Nor will, from all that's mean and shameful free,
Scarb'rough, or *Gow'r*, be found an Absentee.

Do THOSE, appointed BRITAIN'S *State* to guide,
 In that *high* Office *worthily* preside ?
 Do They, with Conduct that deserves no Blame,
Sincerely, at their COUNTRY'S *Welfare* aim ?
 Do They, the PUBLICK DEBT, *immensely* large,
 Increasing still, endeavour to discharge ?
 To clear us, do they, *zealously*, debate,
 Of growing Tax, now, *ruinously* great,
Crushing their Fellow Subjects with its Weight !
 Do they, *such* Grievance, willing to remove,
Truely, to our Esteem, entitl'd, prove ?
 Do they consult our COMMERCE to protect,
 And how, ABROAD, we may *retrieve* RESPECT ?
 Would they, like our *heroick* ANCESTRY,
 Who purchas'd, with their BLOOD, *sweet* LIBERTY,
 Suffer *themselves*, to keep old ALBION, *free* ?
 If thus our Welfare they, with ardour, mean,
 They'll of the grand Assembly too, be seen.
 And tho' the VULGAR, were they ask'd, would give
 To all these Queries, a *loud* Negative ;
 Yet, as o' th' WISE, in Points that *Sense* require,
 Than of the Vulgar, properer 'tis, t' enquire ;
 So, of the *Prudent*, their Opinion claim,
 RULERS they'll say, of *all* STATES are the same ;
 To Good a FEW, to *Evil*, MANY prone,
 And that *some* virtuous ONES, adorn our own.

'Mongst **THESE**, behold, with Dignity and Grace,
 Lord **MEANWELL** fill his *ministerial* Place ;
 Who, should he, by *convincing* Signs, discern
Some Bretheren from their **DUTY** *meanly* turn ;
 Should he perceive them, from *fair* **VIRTUE** flown,
 Their **COUNTRY's** *Interest* leave, to raise their **OWN**,
 Holding the Misdemeanor in *Contempt*,
 Would be the **FIRST**, who'd such *base* Guilt resent.
 His Lordship, then, tho' he a *Statesman* be,
 I, of the *Patriot-Audience*, hope to see,
 Expressing high, and most *sincere* Applause,
 At *such* a Meeting, on so good a Cause.

But hark----I hear yon Anti-C---tier say,
 Lo *Altior*, court, at last, to *Placemen* pay ;
 The Difference *wide*, then let me, plainly, shew,
 'Twixt paying court, and *giving* Men their *Due*.

If *real* Patriotism is, to feel
 For injur'd *Britain's* **Honour**, *fervent* Zeal,
Vernon, deserving all his *deathless* Fame,
 Deserves not more than I, a **PATRIOT's** Name.
 The Merit of that Noble Character,
 Let me not, therefore, with *ill* Judgment, mar ;
 For I will prove, *worse* Judgment nothing shows,
 Than counting *every* Placeman, *Britain's* Foes :

I many Anti-Courtiers *praise*, you find,
 As judging them, to PUBLICK GOOD inclin'd;
 Yet 'twere absurd *all* C---tiers to *contemn*,
 As be'ng, *because* they're C---tiers, *worthless* Men.

Two Persons may in *Judgment* disagree,
 And yet have *equal* Share of *Honesty*;
 Conscience may let *this* Man a Post *accept*,
 And *That*, from Conscience, may a Post reject;
 Then as they, plainly, *Men* of *Honour* seem,
 Sure Both, you'll own, we may, as *such*, esteem.

Suppose, by *general* Consent, a Place
 Were, from this Day, proclaim'd a foul Disgrace;
 Those, who themselves on *Reputation* pique,
 The STATE to *rule*, we then, in vain, should seek.
 Say, Friends to *Britain*, would not *Britain* rue
 The *dire* Confusion, must from thence ensue?

Suppose, still *farther*, to a vast Degree,
 You Men distinguish'd, by their *Worth*, should see;
 A *generous* Sorrow, would you not express,
 They could not PLACES, so *deserv'd* possess?
 And, since (as well as THOSE who *rule* at LAND)
 ADM'RALES are *Placemen*, who, at SEA command;
 That *Porto Bello's* VICTOR, now must leave
 His *glorious* Office, would not PATRIOTS grieve?

Would

Would they not, *inconsolably*, deplore
 The HERO, whom they as a GOD adore,
 Must BRITAIN'S Wrongs, on SPAIN, avenge no more ?

Methinks I hear you now *approve* my Muse,
 And *more* you'll *like*, the *farther* you peruse.
 This, Readers, you will say is vain---agreed ;
 Mind not a Fault so *common*, but proceed.
 Who, vainer Things, I pray, than Cibber, says ?
 Yet tho' you *sneer at* his *unhappy* LAYS,
Vain as he is, the Laureat's PROSE you praise ;
 Then why not praise the VERSE, *vain* Altior sings ?
 Altior's a Laureat too, tho' not the K---g's ;
 And 'tis by *some* who *serve* the Cr---n confes'd,
 The *Writers* for the Cr---n, are not the best.
 Bards, to speak plainly, to a Man, are vain,
 What *Modesty* soever *some* may feign ;
 And the most *pardonable* Bard, is he
 Who *readiest* is to own his *Vanity*.
 Then pardon *me*, and, as I said before,
 The more you read, you will approve the more.

Whoever say, with *mean* obsequious Song,
 I POWER court, my Muse *impartial* wrong.
 Scorning th' Example *despicably* base
 Of those, themselves, who *flatter* into Place,

Had

Had I, like *thine*, thrice worthy *Pope*, a *Muse*,
 Like thee, I'd put it, to no *shameful* Use ;
 St---m---n would ne'er extol, with *fulsome* Quill,
 When I *suspect* they *mean* their COUNTRY *ill*.
 But if, my *present* Fortune, to augment,
 By *pow'rful* PATRONAGE I e'er attempt ;
 My *Choice* of pow'rful Patrons, Men shall be,
 Of Spirit, that *becomes* their DIGNITY ;
 Not such, who, those they *patronize*, expect
 Should *praise*, or *slander*, just as they direct.

On Pow'r, in short, I neither *pin my Sleeve*,
 Nor all those say, who *envy* Pow'r, *believe* ;
 And Seat to have in SENATE, shou'd I live,
 My *Vote*, to NEITHER SIDE *confin'd*, I'd *give* ;
 As JUSTICE prompts, would M---st-rs oppose,
 Or join 'em, when *unreas'nable* their Foes.

Having thus far declar'd my honest Heart,
 Let me its Dictates farther still impart :

Tho, *ruling* M---st-rs, I e'er shall deem,
 Till found *Delinquents*, worthy of Esteem ;
 Yet should they, on Examination *just*,
 Be *faithless* prov'd to their *important* TRUST ;
 Should they be found, converting, *without Measure*,
 To their *own* PRIVATE Use, the PUBLICK TREASURE,

In *present Power*, how so ever *great*,
 However *vast* their *ill-acquir'd Estate*,
 May *righteous Law* compel each *black Offender*,
 With *Shame*, their *Acquisitions* to *surrender*;
 And to their *COUNTRY*, *justly*, to restore
 The Sums *immense*, they from it *wrung* before.

Or if Those plac'd, to *guard* a *PEOPLE free*,
 Of Measures to *enslave* them, *guilty* be,
 O may they meet *severe*, but *proper*, *Doom*!
 Reduc'd from *Grandeur*, to the State of *Groom*;
 Barely the Fate escaping, *JUSTICE* craves,
 And be *themselves*, the only *BRITISH Slaves*.
 But, as all bloody Thoughts, my Nature shock,
 Might *MERCY* save them, from the *dreadful Bl--k*!

Such are the *Sentiments*, my *Bosom*, rule,
 And who'll condemn 'em, but a *Knave*, or *Fool*?

But e'er I yet this long *Digression* end,
 Ye *Senators*, who're *PATRIOTS stil'd*, attend;
 Nor, with *ungrateful Scorn*, the *Lesson* slight,
 That's meant to set your *erring Judgment* right.

Th' *important MOTION*, that you lately made,
 E'er you resolv'd on, well you should have weigh'd;
 So, would you've had no *Reason*, now, to rue
 A *vain Attempt*, *Equestrio* to undo.
 But,

Such

But, ~~by~~ Misconduct, ~~after having shown~~
 The Disappointment ~~well may you be~~
 Since whether *innocent*, or *guilty*, He,
 Whom you attack'd with such *Inveteracy*,
 His 'scaping *clear*, appears *like Innocence*,
 Your *Patriot-warmth*, like *Malice*, void of *Sense*.

Hence learn, when Men in Pow'r, you would accuse,
 Proof's the sole Argument, you ought to use.
 Low, *friendless* Wretches, to th' OLD BAILY, call,
 Mere Circumstance, 'tis true, may cast 'em all;
 But, by his Prince, a MINISTER belov'd,
 By such *slight* Plea, is ne'er to be remov'd.

Rightly your Part, in the Affair, t' have play'd,
 Observe another Rule, you ought t' have made :

Men, only, should have spoke, of Judgment sound,
 For long experienc'd Probity, renown'd ;
 And every *upstart* Stripling, raw and young,
 Been *previously* enjoin'd, to hold their Tongue.
 For Patriot-zeal, by *forward* Boys, express'd,
 Grant it be *real*, can't but *seem* a *Jest*,
 And Laughter must, of Consequence, create,
 Turning to *Ridicule*, the *grave* Debate.

Their

Their FLORID, *empty Tropes*, may pleasing be
 To *Cælia* listning, in the *Gallery* ;
 Th' enamour'd Nymph, in Transport, *there* may say,
 " What Charms these *lovely* Orators display !
 " And as their Language *kindles* such a Fire,
 " They're, at an Age, to *satisfy* Desire ;
 " Tho', then, their SENIORS, more *esteem'd*, may be,
 " These *youthful* MEMBERS, Members are, for *me*.
 To *such*, I say, there's no One will disown,
 Their PARTS, with *great Advantage*, may be *shown* ;
 Yet Those, rever'd for Knowledge, gain'd by Age,
 Alone, on such *grave* Topicks, should engage.

A *Hallifax*, or *Talbot*, I agree,
 May, to this *general* Rule, *Exception* be.

If Patience, still remaining, will permit,
 Mark one more wholesome Observation yet :

Rarely we find, that Undertakings *great*,
 Conclude in *Mediocrity* of Fate ;
 If they succeed, they meet *immortal* Fame,
 If fail, the Consequence is *endless* Shame :
 Who aims at *mighty* Things, his Wish obtains,
 Or, in th' Attempt, *inglorious* Ruin gains :
 Had *Phaeton* the Car, with *Judgment*, drove,
 Pleas'd with the *daring* Boy, 'tis like, great *Jove*

Phæbus,

Phæbus, with Loss of Office, had disgrac'd,
 And in his Room, his *dexterous* Son had plac'd;
 But as of *Skill*, the *Enterprize* was void,
 The *indiscrete* Attempter, was *destroy'd*.
 Not *strictly* just, perhaps, this Simile,
 Yet, of its *Meaning*, you enough will see,
 Whereby fore-warn'd, more cautious you may prove,
 When next you try the St---sm-n to remove.
 But, *Patriot-SENATORS*, pray, take me right,
 This is not said, *fresh* Tryal to excite;
 Nor *wrongly* will the M---st-r resent
 The *spleenless* Words, 'as if, in *Malice* meant;
 But rather, in *good Humour*, own the Name,
 Of BARD IMPARTIAL, I, with *Justice* claim;
 For, as a St---sm-n, whatsoe'er he be,
Apart from St-te, more *generous* none, than he.

Having, I think, enough in Answer, said,
 To the *unjust* Reflection on me made;
 Not questioning my Arguments succeed,
 I'll, on the Point *theatrical* proceed:

Holding it Truth, too plain to be deny'd,
 That there are *worthy* Men of *either* Side,
 With *equal* Zeal, all PATRIOTS, in *their Way*,
 Tho' differing *how* the Patriot to *display*;

So doubt I not, those worthy Men to see,

In Favour of my *virtuous* Scheme, agree :

B-df--d and *D--f-t*, tho' *reverse* in Party,

Both for their COUNTRY'S *Welfare*, warm and hearty ;

C-bb-m, who holds in Scorn a C---tier's Name,

Himself maintaining an *unblemish'd* Fame ;

*Ch----*ly, of C---tiers, tho' he makes a Part,

Howe'er possessing a *true British* Heart ;

L--ds, *W--stm----*and, and *B--l--gton*,

Who *Posts*, as *Burthens* on the PUBLICK, *shun* ;

N-w--ste, *H-rr--gton*, and *M--t-gue*,

Enjoying Posts, with no *oppressive* View ;

P--b--ke and *D-v--shire*, who've high Employ,

T--ns-end and *W--ck--sea*, who none enjoy ;

O-sl-ow, in S-nate, who adorns the Chair,

And tho' a PLACEMAN, *Merit*, makes his *Care* ;

Good *D-d--gton*, who, while in Office, prov'd

None less deserv'd, from thence, to be remov'd,

In POLITICKS, tho' *differently* inclin'd,

That they're, *alike*, to *suffering* BRITONS *kind*,

I, by their Prefence, at the Play shall find :

Equestrio, who, his warmest Foes confess,

Relieves, with Pleasure, Wretches in Distress,

Those, to relieve, for whom, *that Night*, I play,

Will there be *punctual*, and give *double* Pay ;

So, of his Cash, well able to be free,

The *sole* Commander of the Tr--s-ry :

Thwartcourt, a *placeless* Senator, who claim,
Warmly, each Sessions, makes, to *Patriot-Fame*,
 Will not that Opportunity forego,
 In *such* a Cause, his *Patriot-Zeal* to show ;
 But, tho' the Tr--f-ry, he *don't* controul,
 Will pay the *common* Price, *with all his Soul*.

Bus'ness now calling, I defer the rest, .
 Which shall, at my next Leisure, be express'd.

F I N I S.

E R R A T A

Some few Errors in the *Pointing*, being here and there committed, the *judicious* Reader will *easily* discern, and *candidly* correct them.

In the Word *bistrional*, in the 1st Line of Page the 10th, the Author acknowledges his Guilt of *Coinage*.

In the Note at the Bottom of the same Page, dele the Word *inimitable*.

Ask you, why *this* Amendment of the Page?

See *OLDFIELD*, *once*, the *CHARMER* of the Age,

By *WOFFINGTON*, *now*, *equal'd* on the *STAGE*. }

In the 9th Line of Page the 13th, instead of *theatrick*, read *theatrical*.

Should Criticks, on reading the 18th Line of Page the 15th, *sneeringly* remark, that *gallant* *VERNON* is not, *now*, in *Europe* ; it may be naturally answer'd, that the Author is under no Necessity of putting his Project in Execution, till the Return of that *victorious* Patriot.

Threaten, a plausible Senator, who claim,
Witely, each Session, makes, to Patriot-Fame,
Will not that Opportunity forego,
In such a Cause, his Patriot-Name to show;
But, tho' the Tr-ity, he does control,
Will pay the common Price, with all his soul.
Business now calling, I defer the rest,
Which shall, at my next Lecture, be express'd.

Some few Errors in the Printing, being here and there corrected, the Author Reader
will easily discern, and candidly correct them.
In the Word *Whom*, in the 11th line of Page the 1st, the Author acknowledges
his Guilt of Carelessness.
In the Note at the Bottom of the same Page, delete the Word *Whom*.
Ask you, why the Amendment of the Page?
See Opposite, even the Character of the Page.
By Worthington, was, added on the 2d page.
In the 1st line of Page the 1st, instead of *Whom*, read *Whom*.
Should Critics, on reading the 18th line of Page the 1st, observe, that
Galat's Version is not, as I have said, in *Whom*, but in *Whom*, the Author
is under no necessity of joining his Point in Exclamation, till the Return of that
Parlor.

